

MINUTES

UTAH EDUCATION COMMITTEE BOARD OF NURSING

February 22, 2008

**Room 474 – 4th Floor – 7:30 A.M.
Heber Wells Building
Salt Lake City, UT 84111**

CONVENED: 8:01 a.m.

ADJOURNED: 11:30 a.m.

Bureau Manager:
Secretary:

Laura Poe
Shirlene Kimball

Conducting:

Diane Forster-Burke

Committee Members Present:

Peggy Brown
Diane Forster-Burke
Pam Rice

Board Members Excused:

Mary Williams

Guests:

Jennifer Bleyl

TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION

DECISIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS:

Read and Approve the December 13, 2007 minutes:

Approved as written.

Read and Approve the January 4, 2008 minutes:

Approved as written

Read and Approve the January 14, 2008 minutes:

Approved as written

Read and Approve the February 7, 2008 minutes:

Approved as written.

APPOINTMENTS;

Utah Career College
Carolyn Lewis, Nursing Program Director:

Dr. Lewis met with the Committee to provide an update regarding Utah Career College. Dr. Lewis reported she signed a probationary contract with the Division. The program agrees to apply for NLNAC candidacy status no later than March 1, 2008. A

NLNAC site visit must be completed no later than Spring 2009. If the program fails to obtain candidacy status by June 1, 2008, no new students shall be accepted into the program until the program becomes a candidate for accreditation by NLNAC. UCC must obtain NLNAC accreditation by December 31, 2009, and if not, shall cease operation as of December 31, 2009. If the NLNAC site visitors recommend denial of accreditation, the nursing program shall cease to accept students no later than April 15, 2009. If the NCLEX-RN pass rate for 1st time tests takers is more than 5% below the national average as of April 15, 2009, the nursing program shall cease accepting new students. Dr. Lewis indicated that the student handbook reflects the probationary status and students have signed a form indicating they have read the handbook. Dr. Lewis stated she does not know if the probationary status is mentioned on the schools web site. Dr. Lewis also indicated the admission person will explain the probationary status. Dr. Lewis indicated the application for NLNAC candidacy status will be submitted today.

Dr. Lewis indicated the program is closely monitoring pass rates and the pass rate for students taking the exam between January 1, 2008 and February 20, 2008 was about 90%. Those students who have not been able to pass the NCLEX-RN exam have been offered the LPN by equivalency letter. Dr. Lewis stated the new curriculum will not have a PN equivalency and the student would need to complete all but one semester to be the equivalent of the PN or if the student is waiting to pass the HESI in the last quarter.

Dr. Lewis had questions regarding faculty member qualifications employed at other institutions preparing students for the RN license. She stated it was her understanding that Weber State University has 6 BSN prepared faculty members; the University of Utah has 2 BSN faculty members and Westminster has 2 BSN faculty members. Ms. Poe indicated in the past that may have been true because the Board accepted the accreditation standard. However, the Board is working on Rules to require an earned graduate degree with a major in nursing for those programs preparing students for RN licensure. Ms. Poe indicated all new

programs will be held to the higher standard and those programs already approved will have until July 1, 2011 to bring their faculty into compliance.

Ms. Poe questioned Dr. Lewis on several issues regarding the Annual Report. Dr. Lewis indicated that the curriculum has been changed and the 16 hours of observation in OB has been discontinued. She stated at the county jail and at Dimple Dell the mental health hours are more observational because of the type of facility. Dr. Lewis stated the preceptorship will be increased to 120 hours. She indicated the requirements in the course descriptions stay the same, but have been expanded. Dr. Lewis stated they are anticipating a high pass rate on the NCLEX exam. Committee members stated Dr. Lewis is doing a good job and Committee members will meet with her again in March.

Ameritech College
Karla Huntsman, Acting Nursing Director:

Canceled. Ms. Huntsman will be invited to meet with the Committee in March.

Mountainland ATC
Debra Edmunds, Nursing Program Director:

Ms. Edmunds reported the first cohort of 20 students started January 14, 2008 and will graduate December 19, 2008. Ms. Edmunds indicated they are now accepting students for the August cohort. Ms. Edmunds indicated the program has applied for NLNAC candidacy status. She stated she would like to have the site visit a year from now, with the self study completed by summer. If they have a site visit Fall 2008 and were granted approval, the students would have graduated from an approved program. Ms. Poe requested Ms. Edmunds submit the candidacy status approval letter and a copy of the self study report. Ms. Edmunds will meet with the Committee again in March.

Stevens-Henager College.
Rebecca Reese, Nursing Director
Vickie Dewsnup, Campus President:

Ms. Reese reported the first class is graduating today. Vickie Dewsnup indicated she would like to address the anonymous letter sent to Board members. Ms. Poe indicated she had reviewed the letter, but Board members have not seen the letter. Ms. Poe stated this issue would be addressed without the Board present. Ms. Dewsnup stated she would like to respond formally to the letter and will meet with Ms. Poe next week. Ms. Dewsnup stated that for the record, she would like to state she believes the complaint came

from a disgruntled past employee.

Ms. Reese presented an update on faculty members and the courses they will be teaching. Ms. Dewsnap indicated SHC will be introducing a teacher assistant program in the college and will assign someone in the nursing masters program to assist faculty members. Ms. Reese reported she has made several revisions to the student handbook and submitted a copy of the revisions. Ms. Reese reported there are nine students who are graduating and will be applying to take the NCLEX examination. The next group of students will be ready to take the NCLEX exam in August. She reported they are still looking for pediatric clinicals, but have the clinical sites for all other areas. She indicated 50% of theory grade will be for exams, 10% for quizzes and the student will be required to submit one scholarly paper for each course. Ms. Reese stated the NLNAC candidacy status request has been written and will be mailed by March 15, 2008. She indicated she will forward a copy to the Board. Committee members will see her again in March.

Apollo College
Dina Faucher PhD RN, Dean of Nursing:

Dr. Faucher indicated Apollo College currently operates nine campuses in Arizona, New Mexico, Idaho, Oregon, Washington and Nevada. They hold accreditation from the Accreditation Council of Independent Colleges and Schools (ACICS). Ms. Forster-Burke stated the current acceptable accredited bodies are ABHES, ACCSCT and DETC. Dr. Faucher stated they were ABHES accredited at one time, but just recently changed to ACICS because they felt the ACICS had higher standards. Dr. Faucher stated NLNAC is considering accepting the ACICS, and she is hoping the NLNAC will approve/accept the ACICS accrediting body at the next NLNAC meeting. Ms. Forster-Burke stated the parent institution needs to be approved by one of the acceptable accrediting bodies and Apollo College does not meet the criteria for approval at this time. Ms. Forster-Burke indicated the request could be tabled until action is taken by the NLNAC. Ms. Forster-Burke made a Motion to table the letter of intent from Apollo College until NLNAC takes action to accept the ACICS and our rules have been changed to reflect the change. Ms. Rice seconded the Motion. All Committee members in

favor. The letter of intent has been tabled. However, since Dr. Faucher is present at the meeting, Committee members had several questions for Dr. Faucher. Committee members requested clarification regarding virtual clinical excursions. Dr. Faucher explained virtual clinical excursion is a virtual, interactive clinical experience on a computer. She indicated if a clinical instructor can not meet with the student, or the student misses clinicals, the student would then complete the virtual clinical excursion. A faculty member is not present unless there are a group of students who need the experience. Dr. Faucher questioned the requirements for faculty members and whether or not a faculty member prepared at Apollo would be allowed to teach in the RN program. Committee members indicated the degree needs to come from a nurse accredited program and if the program meets the criteria, the individual could teach. Ms. Forster-Burke indicated the state is saturated with students and clinical spots are hard to find. Dr. Faucher stated she met with several agencies who have indicated there are available spots for students on week-ends and on the night shift. Committee members expressed concern with students receiving fundamental clinicals at odd hours and shifts, and these students miss out on the team concept. Dr. Faucher questioned how do we meet the shortage, how to get over the hump if we don't look at alternates? Dr. Faucher also stated her program does not lack appropriately prepared faculty because they pay the individual what he/she is worth. Ms. Poe stated if the program pulls the appropriately prepared faculty from other institutions, the state still has a problem with lack of faculty. Dr. Faucher stated this program is different than other programs that have come before the Board. She understands the need for appropriately prepared faculty. The curriculum developed by Apollo College is used at all campuses unless a state has additional requirements. A program located in a state can not change the course syllabus or objectives without approval.

Ms. Forster-Burke stated the Board's major concerns are program administrators and faculty who have no curricular expertise; the adequate clinical experience, low NCLEX pass rates, and turn over in faculty and

administrators due to lack of experience. Dr. Faucher stated the Salt Lake Campus and the Reno campus will be the only campuses with nursing only. They would like to accept 30 students every 16 weeks, and have three admissions per year.

Provo College requests,
Gigi Marshall, Nursing program Director
James Grabe, Academic Dean:

Ms. Marshall presented a summary of the four changes Provo College would like to make in the nursing program. Ms. Marshall indicated they would like to decrease the number of semesters from 6 to 5 in order to accelerate the program. The course curriculum and number of credit hours would not change. Ms. Marshall reported it has been difficult to accept LPNs at the half way mark in a program and would like to terminate the LPN only cohort. She indicated LPNs may be invited to join an existing cohort on a case-by-case basis. Ms. Marshall requested the program be allowed to increase the number of students admitted to 50 students. She indicated admissions would be once a year in January. The program would have between 90 and 100 students at any given time. Ms. Marshall also indicated they would like to reverse the curriculum changes proposed by Dr. Lewis last year and revert back to the original curricular order which allows students to complete LPN by equivalency requirements at the end of the first year. Ms. Rice made a motion to recommend to the Total Board approval of the requests. Ms. Brown seconded the Motion. All Committee members in favor.

Discussion regarding proposed Rules changes:

Ms. Poe indicated the proposed Rules changes will be discussed in Total Board this afternoon.

Review NCLEX Pass Rates:

Committee members reviewed the pass rates. The pass rates were lower this quarter and Committee members expressed concern with Ameritech, CEU, Dixie, SUU and UCC. Both SUU and UCC have addressed the Board's concerns. Dixie's pass rate is on the border of the 5% below the national average and will not receive a letter, but will be watched closely. Ameritech's LPN pass rate is also close to the border of the 5%. All other PN programs appear to be doing well.

Review Annual Reports:

Reviewed. Committee members expressed concern that the nursing program director for Ameritech changed four times in one year. Committee members

recommended they continue to meet with the nursing program director once a month for follow up.

Stevens-Henager: Committee members recommend they continue to meet with the nursing program director once a month for follow-up.

Utah Career College: Committee members are continuing to monitor the program and recommend continued meetings with the nursing program director once a month for follow-up.

All other reports were accepted.

Report on January site visits to Stevens-Henager College, Utah Career College and Ameritech College:

Ms. Forster-Burke reported on the site visit to Stevens-Henager College and Ms. Brown reported on the site visits to Utah Career College and Ameritech College.

Note: These minutes are not intended to be a verbatim transcript but are intended to record the significant features of the business conducted in this meeting. Discussed items are not necessarily shown in the chronological order they occurred.

March 28, 2008
Date Approved

(ss) Diane Forster-Burke
Diane Forster-Burke, Chair Education Committee - Board of Nursing

March 28, 2008
Date Approved

(ss) Laura Poe
Laura Poe, Bureau Manager, Division of Occupational & Professional Licensing